

Jewish Leaders Pay Tribute To Gandhi

"A Great Loss To All Mankind"

"I STAND here as a representative of the Jewish people to join in a deep act of mourning at the passing of the great Mahatma," said Chief Rabbi Dr. L. I. Rabinowitz, when addressing a memorial meeting to Mahatma Gandhi held at the Johannesburg City Hall under the auspices of the Transvaal Indian Congress.

Other speakers included Mr. S. M. Kuper, vice-chairman of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies; Dr. Y. M. Dadoo, chairman of the Indian Congress; the Rev. Michael Scott, Mr. S. Buirski, and many other representatives of Johannesburg religious and communal organisations.

Rabbi Rabinowitz said that a brave prince had fallen, not only for the world but for Israel. "Not only among his own people was Gandhi's death a great loss, but it was felt by the whole of mankind. One of the lights of civilisation has been extinguished," he said.

The Rabbi said that as soon as he had heard the news of the Mahatma's death his congregation instructed him to disregard all other engagements and to attend the memorial service.

"I stand here before you as a representative of the Jewish people and join with you in the act of mourning at the loss of this great and noble man. I can best compare the qualities of Mahatma to those of Moses, the undisputed spiritual leader of the Jewish people.

"We Jews have a weakness for judging a man on whether he is our friend or not. Gandhi was the friend of every people who suffered under disabilities. His passion and his compassion for those who suffered was one of his remarkable features. Like Moses, he sought to lead people into the promised land of communal peace. It was for that that he gave his life," said Rabbi Rabinowitz.

Mr. S. M. Kuper said that the Jews who had undergone 2,000 years of persecution, understood well the



struggle of the Indian people. "We followed closely the part the Mahatma played in the liberation of the Indian people. I know that the lessons Gandhi has taught the world will bring courage to all oppressed peoples throughout the world," he said.

Dr. Y. M. Dadoo said: "Gandhi is dead. But his spirit lives in the heart and minds of all freedom-loving people."

South African Musician Wins Important Prize

Mr. Jacob Berlinsky, a well-known Continental musician who settled in South Africa recently, has been informed by the Jewish Music Council of New York that he was awarded the first prize of 1,000 dollars in a competition by the Council for the best composition on a Jewish theme.

The winning entry, entitled "Canaan," is based on the story of Hagar and Sarah.

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Prayer Meeting At City Hall Dr. RABINOWITZ Addresses Gathering

The Yishuv Will Manage It's Own Affairs

— Mr. B. Gering

"ONCE there is a Jewish State there will be democratic elections and the people of the Yishuv will choose the Government they want," said Mr. B. Gering, chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation, when he addressed the Zionist Luncheon Club on Friday. Mr. S. M. Kuper presided.

Mr. Gering explained that the influence which the Jews in the Galut will have in the affairs of Palestine will be exactly that which the Frenchman who lives in South Africa has in the affairs of France. "We shall have to content ourselves with the fact that we have got a Jewish State, but we shall have to leave the running of the country to the Jewish people in Palestine."

Mr. Gering was to have attended the meeting of the Actions Committee in Palestine at the end of January, but this date was subsequently put forward to March 2. The reason for the postponement, said Mr. Gering, was due to the attitude of the Palestine Administration and the British Foreign Office, which did not allow the Commission to enter Palestine. In the meantime the Zionist leadership was conferring with the Commission, and until their talks were concluded, the Jewish leaders could not attend the meeting of the Actions Committee.

Mr. Gering said that all the decisions concerning the internal administration of the Yishuv would have to be made by the leaders in the Yishuv, as only they were capable of giving advice on defence, the civil administration and other internal problems.

Speaking about Britain's so-called "neutrality" and non-co-operation generally, Mr. Gering said that it was their policy "to legalise killing and illegalise defence."

In conclusion, Mr. Gering made an appeal for unity in this critical hour. Party quarrels, he said, should be shelved, until such time as the Jewish State is able to stand on its own feet.

SWEDEN TO HAND

£1½ MILLIONS TO AGENCY

GENEVA, Thursday. — £1,500,000 Sterling will be turned over by the Swedish Government for the International Refugee Organisation and will be used for the settlement of Jewish sufferers of Nazi persecution. The funds will be placed at the disposal of the Jewish Agency.

Ivor Novello Jewish Guild

Twenty members whose birthday fell in December and January entertained by the Jewish Birthday Club at their monthly luncheon on January 27. The guest of honour was Ivor Novello.

The President, Mr. H. Miller, presided in the chair, and a large number of members attended.

Mr. Novello said that he was honoured to be asked to a representative gathering of the Jewish community. He deplored the fact that there was no established theatre in South Africa, particularly the Standard Theatre had been demolished. He was confident that there was a demand for a theatre in large towns in South Africa, and was thinking of asking a number of English artists to come to Africa to work with South African artists who were already well known to the Union audiences.

Mr. Novello said that it was an established fact that Jews were prominent in the support of the theatre all over the world, and this was more reason why he welcomed the opportunity to address this gathering.

Rabbi Zlotnik Welcomed Home

MR. H. HERBER, president of the S.A. Board of Jewish Education, extended a hearty welcome to Rabbi J. L. Zlotnik, director of the Board of Jewish Education, and his wife on their return from Australia, at a reception given by the Council of the Board at the House.

Mr. Herber referred to the outstanding achievements of Rabbi Zlotnik in Australia and stated that Rabbi had not only discharged his mission with great distinction but also brought the message of the African Jewry to the Australian Jewish community. Rabbi Zlotnik's achievements in the field of Jewish education in South Africa, continued Mr. Herber, are well known and greatly appreciated.

In conclusion, Mr. Herber paid tribute to Mr. I. Goss, assistant director of the Board, who did an excellent job of work as acting director during the absence of Rabbi Zlotnik.

Rabbi J. L. Zlotnik dwelt on his work in Australia. He stressed his desire on the part of the Australian Jewish community to lead a full Jewish life. The Rabbi referred to the success of the J.N.F. Campaign and felt sure that the Australian Jewish community would play an important part in the upbuilding of the Jewish State.

Adv. C. Isaacson, K.C., the representative of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies on the Council of the Board, paid tribute to the achievements of Rabbi Zlotnik. He felt certain that the S.A. Board of Jewish Education was doing outstanding work, which was of great benefit to the African Jewish community.

Mr. I. Goss, assistant director of the Board, commented on the high regard the staff of the Board had for Rabbi Zlotnik. He stated that every phase of the Board's activities were directed and guided by the Rabbi.

Mr. H. Coll, hon. treasurer of the Board, paid tribute to the work done by Rabbi Zlotnik and his staff.

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